Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, The late 1870s brought a large emigration of German settlers to South Dakota, and the families who settled in the rural Freeman area included the names of Heirigs, Brunner, Goettertz, Dangel, Roadinger, Schweitzer, Weier, Bartsch, and Bauer; and,

WHEREAS, These pioneers evidenced courage and strength as they carved out a life on the plains of South Dakota aided by their Christian character and unbounded faith in their heavenly Father; and,

WHEREAS, In order to practice their faith, these early settlers first attended Masses in their homes, and in 1885, they realized their dream of a church when the 20 X 30 foot structure was erected and fifteen families called St. Boniface, Idylwilde their spiritual home; and,

WHEREAS, With the growth of the congregation, a new wooden structure was required and in 1894, it replaced the stone church on land donated by Christopher Goettertz and John Heirigs donated land for the cemetery; and,

WHEREAS, An ever-growing congregation required an even larger church, and the present structure came to life in 1934, was enlarged to twice its size in 1955, and in honor of this Centennial celebration was remodeled this year; and,

WHEREAS, As important as the physical structure is to the people who worship there, it is the people and their religion that constitute a church and St. Boniface, Idylwilde will be celebrating a sacred century of service on August 4, 1985:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim August 4, 1985, as

ST. BONIFACE IDYLWILDE CENTENNIAL DAY

in South Dakota, and I join the 90 families who now call St. Boniface, Idylwilde theirs in celebrating the congregation's first 100 years and in wishing a long and healthy life to this pillar of spiritual strength to the people of rural Freeman and of South Dakota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighteenth Day of July, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Five

William J. Janklow
WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Alice Kundert
ALICE KUNDERT, SECRETARY OF STATE

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